

**HAHIRA CITY COUNCIL**

**WORK SESSION**

**FEBRUARY 5, 2019**

**6:00 P.M.**

**COURTHOUSE**

The Mayor and Council met for a Work Session on February 5, 2019 with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Bruce Cain, Councils: Patrick Warren, Mason Barfield, Terry Benjamin and Mayor Pro Tem Kenneth Davis. City Manager Jonathan Sumner, City Clerk Lisa Mashburn, Police Chief Terry Davis, Fire Chief Dwight Bennett and PWD Donnie Warren.

**REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MEETING MINUTES:**

- A. JANUARY 8, 2019 WORK SESSION
- B. JANUARY 10, 2019 COUNCIL MEETING

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions or corrections regarding the minutes. None noted.

**REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES:**

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions or concerns regarding the bills. None noted.

**DISCUSSIONS:**

**A. SUBDIVISION SOUTH OF MULBERRY PLACE (BEN HOUSE)**

Jerry Stoker of 4836 Oak Arbor Drive Valdosta and Ben House thanked everyone for the meeting and discussion over the last serval months regarding the proposed Mulberry Place Subdivision. We understand that the previous subdivision on highway 41 North that the 60 foot wide lots were denied. We understand that in the past people developed in Hahira and it was not satisfactory. We also understand that as a new developer that the City does not want any R-6 development on 65 foot lots and we respect that decision. I would just like to point out that people in the community cannot afford larger lots. Our recommendation was for R-6 140 lots with wet lands, playground and larger greenspace. We would like to annex this into the City of Hahira. We know that the City does not want this and I disagree, we need alternatives for this site. Lowndes County will pave the road in the near future and stated that the staff and water department will work with us. We would need to connect to the City of Hahira water line and that would be one proposal. I am confident that Lowndes County will approve the R-6 with far more restrictions. That is not our first choice, we have owned the land for awhile now and our only alternative is to have larger lots. We could do 149 larger lots and then request water purchase from the City of Hahira and rezone in Lowndes County. The Mayor then said the County has lift station 35 feet away on Union Road. House stated that we are caught in the middle of two governments. We are flexible but we would like to see it brought into the City of Hahira. The Mayor stated that the County would have to send us a letter requesting us to purchase water from the City of Hahira. Mr. Stoker stated that we are here to work with you

and ask the Council to reconsider R-6 with community center, playground and greenspace. City Manager Sumner said the County would have to rezone to move forward overall and provide water/sewer services. Mayor Pro Tem Davis said the project could go forward in Lowndes County and ask City officials for water and sewer. Councilman Warren said he will not vote for R-6 due to the conversations we had with Moyer and McNeals in the past months. We also have a lot of the R-6 for sale over at Bryson Circle, I am not against the density but under current circumstances I am against it. Stoker said another suggestion would be to annex into the City and tie in with water/sewer, do 45 lots on 80 foot lots and then go up in size of lots and houses. It all depends on the HOA restrictions, we could tie in and give you zoning. Mayor Pro Tem Davis said I am trying to see this with different perspective, I understand Councilman Warren's concern but I think other alternatives need to be negotiated. Ben House said we can build up in size and transition, if it is not what you like then we can change it in the future with 80 foot lots. City Manager Sumner then stated if we annex this in will the County still pave this. The Mayor asked if they gave him any type of time frame. Or is it all pending on this. Councilman Barfield said these R-6 homes are part of much larger houses, Dr. Moyer had small subdivision with smaller area. I do think that 140 R-6 is overkill, I think it should be mix use. I could support mix use. Sometimes growth is good but we must watch growth. Sumner stated that the City of Hahira is not interested would you connect with Lowndes County. What would you do for water, well or tie in. I think this all needs to be discussed first and then come back with 100-115 lots and see what you think.

**B. 2019 HONEYBEE FESTIVAL (LANA HALL)**

Lana Hall of 7288 Hall Webb Road stated she is here as Honeybee Festival Chair person. She stated that last year was a success and we gave 62% back to the Community. We will have a new sponsor this year and hope to give back more. She then reviewed the list of request for the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Honey Bee Festival. She thanked everyone and stated we cannot do this without you. She then asked if anyone has any questions. None noted.

**C. GMA ANNUAL CONVENTION (CITY MANAGER)**

City Manager Sumner stated that is time to plan for the annual GMA Convention is Savannah. Registration will be the first week of March. I will need to know who would like to attend and your preferred dates and classes. The Convention will be June 21-25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and we will get the forms to Council so that we can do registration.

**D. PANHANDLING ORDINANCE (COUNCILMAN WARREN)**

Councilman Warren said that it has come to his attention that we have panhandling at the interstate. We do not have signs up and we have a lot of homeless people at the hotel. We do not want this here. The police could remove people if we had signage there for designated area. This activity would then be prohibited if we had panhandling ordinance in place with signage. We need something to show that it is against the law. Sumner stated that he has a copy of the Valdosta panhandling ordinance in the packet for review. I can give to attorney and we can move forward for next month with modifications to the Valdosta ordinance.

**DEPARTMENT REQUESTS:**

**A. TWO POLICE CARS (CHIEF DAVIS)**

Chief Davis requested two new patrol cars, our fleet is getting old and we have a few that need to be retired. I have a price from TSA of \$98,000. This is fully equipped and it would be two new Tahoe's at \$32,928 each. This would be paid out of SPLOST VII fund.

**B. TWO W/S TRUCKS (PWD WARREN)**

PWD Warren requested two new W/S trucks for the PW department. We have 4 trucks that are 1980 models. I have three bids with the best price for Dodge trucks at \$20,876 each for a total of \$42,000. This would be paid out of the Water Sewer Fund.

**SET FEBRUARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:**

-all removed and put on Consent agenda

**SET FEBRUARY CONSENT AGENDA:**

-Two Police Cars, GSA -\$98,158-SPLOST VII

-Two W/S Trucks, GSA-\$41,752

-2019 Honeybee Festival request

-GMA Annual Convention

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.**

**ADJOURN.**

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**Mayor Bruce Cain**

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**City Clerk Lisa Mashburn**